

Proposal Abstract

Applicant Name: **Butte-Silver Bow Local Government**

Project Title: **Thompson Park Restoration Project**

Project Description and Benefits to Restoration:

Thompson Park, is a 3,454-acre municipal park, co-managed by the City and County of Butte-Silver Bow (BSB) and the Forest Service. It is the second largest municipal park in the United States and lies within the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Thompson Park covers approximately 15% of the Blacktail Creek Watershed, the largest tributary watershed (24,618 acres) of the Silver Bow Creek watershed, the headwaters of the Upper Clark Fork River Basin (UCFRB).

Recreational opportunities and environmental quality within the unique and historical Thompson Park is in jeopardy and needs to be protected. Many of the facilities, roads and trails were built in Thompson Park before concerns and knowledge of resource protection. Over the years, many of the amenities have become unusable to the public due to their age and need to be replaced. The trail system and road network need to be repaired with proper environmental design to decrease sedimentation into Blacktail Creek and its tributaries.

The Thompson Park project replaces lost or impaired natural resources and services. Natural resources to be protected and enhanced within the Blacktail Creek watershed and Thompson Park area include fisheries, aquatic habitat, and riparian habitat. Recreational services that will be replaced include hiking, fishing, mountain biking, camping, horseback riding and bird watching. Although the project does not restore any injured resources as defined by Arco vs. Montana, Blacktail Creek is a tributary to Silver Bow Creek so any enhancement and protection activities in the uninjured Blacktail Creek drainage will have significant impact on the injured resource downstream. Blacktail Creek, the primary stream, is home to native Westslope cutthroat trout (Kanda and Leary, 2000). The Blacktail Creek population of Westslope cutthroat trout (WCT) is important to the greater Silver Bow Creek watershed in that it is one of only a handful of populations connected to the Upper Clark Fork River that presents a viable opportunity for restoration of the species in the Silver Bow Creek main stem.

The project will re-establish historic passive recreation activities in the Thompson Park and surrounding area to provide quality resource-based recreation opportunities that are balanced with the preservation of the sub-watershed. Recent changes in the management agreement assure that these efforts are protected through long-term management.

PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY FORM									
EXPENSE CATEGORY		UCFRB RESTORATION FUND	APPLICANT CONTRIBUTION			OUTSIDE SOURCES			TOTAL
			Cash	In-Kind	Subtotal	Cash	In-Kind	Subtotal	
1	SALARIES AND WAGES								
2	FRINGE BENEFITS								
3	CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$833,817.00		\$400,665.00	\$400,665.00		\$203,870.00	\$203,870.00	\$1,438,352.00
4	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS								
5	COMMUNICATIONS								
6	TRAVEL								
7	RENT AND UTILITIES								
8	EQUIPMENT								
9	MISCELLANEOUS	\$120,000.00							\$120,000.00
TOTAL		\$953,817.00		\$400,665.00	\$400,665.00		\$203,870.00	\$203,870.00	\$1,558,352.00

In electronic form this spreadsheet will automatically calculate the expense totals from the following Budget Detail Form.